



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**TISSUE RETRACTOR AND GUIDE DEVICE**

the specification of which was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on **February 11, 2004** and assigned serial no. **10/777,019**.

In the event that the filing date and/or Application No. are not entered above at the time I execute this document, and if such information is deemed necessary, I hereby authorize and request my attorneys/agent(s) at **Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP**, World Trade Center West, 155 Seaport Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2604, to insert above the filing date and/or Application No. of said application.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by an amendment, if any, specifically referred to herein.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me that is material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

**FOREIGN PRIORITY CLAIM**

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

☒ no such foreign applications have been filed

**CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S./PCT APPLICATION(S)**

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of the United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose

all information that is material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which became available to me between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

☐ no such U.S./PCT applications have been filed.

☒ such U.S./PCT application have been filed as follows:

Application Number	Date of Filing	Status (Patented/Pending/Abandoned)
10/609,123	June 27, 2003	Pending

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint:

All practitioners at Customer Number 021125

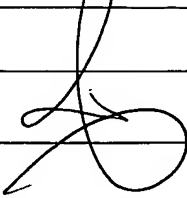
all of **Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP**, World Trade Center West, 155 Seaport Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2604, jointly, and each of them severally, my attorneys at law/patent agent(s), with full power of substitution, delegation and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

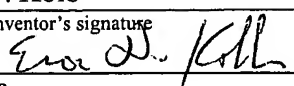
Please mail all correspondence to Lisa J. Michaud at **Customer Number** , whose address is:

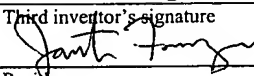
**Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP**  
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Please direct telephone calls to: Lisa J. Michaud at (617) 439-2550.

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Second inventor's signature 	Date 3/16/04
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Third inventor's signature 	Date <b>3/19/04</b>
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